



To Listen to recording: Available by request

Past Network Call Notes are available at:

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnsaferoutes/news/network_calls.html

Please note: recordings of the Network Calls are archived for 6 months only.

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Resource Sharing: Anything Particularly of Interest?
- Presentation: **Integrating SRTS into Comprehensive Planning**
Presenter: Ellen Pillsbury
- Maximizing Bike To School Events in May (Discussion)
- State Policy Update
- Announcements





THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

...is approximately 180 dedicated professionals from organizations and agencies that are advancing Safe Routes to School (SRTS) in Minnesota...

...that builds skills in Minnesota communities to successfully implement SRTS, supporting partnerships between state and local agencies, municipalities, and advocacy organizations, and advocating for policy changes to support walking and bicycling to schools and improvements to the built environment...





...and makes Minnesota a state where all students, no matter their race, ethnicity, income level, age, ability, or geographic location, can walk and bicycle on routes that are safe, comfortable and convenient...

...because to be able to walk and bike safely makes health, learning, communities, and independence better for all of us.

2 page printable version sent with PDF of meeting notes



MINNESOTA
**SAFE
ROUTES**
TO SCHOOL



**BlueCross
BlueShield**
Minnesota

Center for
Prevention

THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

NETWORK

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of
Minnesota Center for Prevention

Members comprised of local
professionals in public health,
transportation and land use
planning, school staff and
administrators, and advocates

Minnesota Department of
Transportation

ROLES

- Leads Minnesota SRTS Network.
 - Connects local practitioners to resources.
 - Links issues and ideas among local initiatives and Healthy Kids Coalition.
 - Listens to ideas and questions from Network members.
-
- Provide advice and share resources during Network calls.
 - Elevate emerging issues and topics of interest to support their efforts.
-
- Administers state SRTS program.
 - Provides resources to create safer and more accessible environments for people to walk and bike through planning, education, enforcement, and encouragement initiatives.
 - Participates in every Minnesota SRTS Network call providing either program updates or resources to support implementation.



THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

Minnesota Department of Health –
Statewide Health Improvement
Partnership

- Supports local public health departments to advance healthy community initiatives like SRTS.
- Integrates SRTS into strategies to improve the health of every student in the state.

American Heart Association/Healthy
Kids Coalition

- Leads Minnesotans for Healthy Kids Coalition and advocates for SRTS resources.
- Provides updates about state policy agenda and solicits input from the Network regarding policy priorities.

Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota

- Champions bicycle education and advocacy statewide and collaborates with the Healthy Kids Coalition on SRTS policy goals.
- Leads the training and implementation of Walk! Bike! Fun! Curriculum for children ages five to thirteen to learn traffic rules and regulations, the potential hazards to traveling, and handling skills needed to bike and walk effectively, appropriately and safely through their community.
- Convenes MN Bicycle Advocates and MN Bicycle Educators groups.

To join the Minnesota Safe Routes to School Network,
email center.communications@bluecrossmn.com

2017 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Master Technology: Use line mute
- **Cultivate Connections**
 - **Meet Up – maybe in September???**
- Coordinate agenda topics with Bike MN
- Continue Resource Sharing
- Implement Monthly Policy topic (Feature integration of EQUITY each time)

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Walk Summit is Sept 13-15, 2017

We can organize a meet up for September 12? 12:00 – 5:00 or 3:00 – 7:00 or just an evening “happy hour type venue”

Why do this?

What topics would you like to discuss?

RESOURCES

- Bike Parking Guide - http://www.saferoutesnj.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/School-Bike-Parking-Guide_SRTSResourceCenter.pdf

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Integrating SRTS into Comprehensive Planning

April 2017 SRTS Network Call

**Ellen Pillsbury, AICP
Active Transportation Coordinator**



Objectives:

Understand what the Comp plan is as a local policy guiding document

Understand how to connect SRTS activities to Comp plan policy

Be able to recognize how to integrate

Comprehensive Plans

1. **What are they? And what are they important for SRTS?**
2. **What's required with Comp plans?**
3. **What are the opportunities for integrating SRTS?**



Planning Statutes

- **The purpose of local planning is to:**
 - Promote the health, safety, and general welfare
 - Insure a safer, more pleasant and more economical environment for residential, commercial, industrial, and public activities
 - Preserve agricultural and other open spaces
- Manage growth, change, and renewal of a community
- Improve the quality of life for its residents
- Protect you from your neighbors

Minn. Stat. §462.351 (2014).



The State statutes provides City, Counties and 7-county metro area to plan for the future in order to promote the health, safety and general welfare and

Local Gov. Police Powers/Planning, Zoning/Municipal Planning

- to insure a safer, more pleasant and more economical environment for residential, commercial, industrial and public activities,
- to preserve agricultural and other open lands, and
- to promote the **public health**, safety, and general welfare Minn. Stat. § 462.351 (2014).

Counties . . . / Planning, Development, Zoning

- to promote the **health**, safety, morals and general welfare. Minn. Stat. § 394.21 (2014).

Metropolitan Area/Metropolitan Government/Land Use Planning

- coordinate the plans of the local jurisdictions to “protect the **health**, safety, and welfare of residents” and also to ensure “orderly, and economic development.” Minn. Stat. § 473.851 (2014).

Legal Requirements

- **State-wide**

- Minnesota state law gives local government the authority to plan.
- Beyond permitting local government the authority to plan, state statute does not require cities, townships, or counties to regularly produce a comprehensive plan*.
 - As a result, comp planning activities in Greater Minnesota vary greatly from community to community. Some cities haven't updated their comp plans in decades.
 - *Cities with the 7-county Metro area need to update every 10 years.



Comprehensive plan are not required, city outside the metro area,

Comprehensive Plan

- **The local comprehensive plan is a public document that:**
 - describes how a community wants to develop over a specified planning period
 - clarifies the relationships between the community and the region
 - serves as a guide for decision making including policy, programs, projects, and public spending
 - guides “official controls”



Comprehensive planning is a public process that determines the vision, goals, and aspirations of an area in terms of community development.

The outcome of a comprehensive planning process is the Comprehensive Plan.

Provides legal foundation for land use decisions and regulations

Helps identify coming changes and ways to prepare for those changes

Protects and maximizes public investments

Creates a better, more livable community – not just a bigger community

Scope of a Plan

20 th Century	21 st Century
Land Use	20 th Century
Transportation	Health
Housing	Equity
Parks and Trails	Sustainability
Economic Development	Resiliency
Water	Food
Heritage Preservation	TBD...



For all of the last century, City Comp plan have provided vision and policy guidance around the public investment in these main areas, now are moving into planning processes which include more types of engagement activities. City are including health, sustainability and resiliency and food into their plans and utilizing an equity lens.

Comp plans must keep up with out changing world. We shouldn't continue to shoehorn our complex world into comp plans. Comp plans should mold to our world. This requires us to consider including information on the topics of today while keeping the traditional planning topics (or elements).

Integration with SRTS

20 th Century	21 st Century
Land Use	20 th Century
Transportation	Health
Housing	Equity
Parks and Trails	Sustainability
Economic Development	Resiliency
Water	Food
Heritage Preservation	TBD...



Throughout a comp plan there is opportunity for goals and policy to be supportive of SRTS

Community' s Vision states a long 30 year view for where a community wants to be... healthy, safe and vibrant for the popoulation are common key themes

Land Use- looking at the existing and future land uses to incorporate

Within Transportation goals for street networks, prioritizing pedestrian travel and complete street policies. Strategies around incorporating pedestrian/ bicycle considerations into routine maintenance and construction projects.

Housing- goals and strategies around maintaining a housing stock for the future demographics/population of a city and building housing with proximity of public destinations e.g. schools

Parks/trails- goals and policy strategies around connecting schools, housing and parks and trails

Heritage- school sites

21st Century Goals- within this structure, a health section, can address supportive environments for routine physical activity and under a resiliency section, a city could consider it's transportation network and modes and how it planning for climate adaption

Opportunities for SRTS

- **Strengthens policy connections to city and county activities**
- **Partner coordination**
- **Public investment priorities e.g. street network**



Especially for ongoing maintenance and prioritizing routes

Integration Opportunities

1. **Preparing to plan or update a Comp plan**
2. **During the Planning process**
3. **Plan Implementation**



There are generally 3 time periods to support or build awareness connecting a SRTS plan policies into a Comp plan,

As I mentioned earlier some cities may have a comp plan and they routinely update, others may have an older one or none.

I'll give a few examples for ways bring SRTS goals into a process

Preparing for a Planning Process

- **Meet with City staff**
- **Know what's in the current plan**
- **Understand why the process is desired**
- **Learn about the process timeline**

Cities who are ready to have a comp plan or need to update, spend time learning about the existing plan

It is common planning practice to review all current plans before a Comp plan planning process begin. If the SRTS plan is more current then the comp plan

Planning Process

- **Encourage SRTS team members to participate in planning process**
- **Support walking and biking supportive policy, Such as:**
 - Complete street policy
 - Bike/ped monitoring
 - Year-round maintenance
 - Coordination among city departments around active transportation or SRTS
 - Neighborhood and school site land use and design

Plan Implementation

- **Connect SRTS activities to Comp plan goals**
- **Strategically plan short term for the long-term such as:**
 - Ped/bike counts
 - Route maps
 - Coordinated encouragement/enforcement events
 - Sidewalk conditions data collection
 - Demonstration projects



Whether the plan is current or maybe older, work to tie SRTS activities to comp plan goals and continue to strategically plan short term with the long-term policy in mind

Understanding at all cities do things a bit differently

SRTS Example

SRTS Plan Goal 5: Help public policy and infrastructure planning incorporate Safe Routes to School experiences and priorities.

Action Item 5.2: Encouraging local government to include walking and bicycling to school in comprehensive plans as it is a great step toward making sure that in the long term, communities are safer places for children to get healthy physical activity on the way to school.



SRTS Plan language

This is one example, of how a SRTS planning process outcome tied it's self to a city comp plan, this worked for this community, however your community may have ideas for how it works better for them.

Comp Plan Example

Transportation Goal Statement:

.....will have a high quality and well maintained system of interconnected trails, sidewalks, and roads that are easy to navigate for residents and visitors and all modes of transportation (walk, bike, roll, drive). ,....will collaborate with other jurisdictions and entities to fulfill a complete transportation network.....



A city Comp plan example

As before this is one cities approach, the goal statement for your community may look different, however keep the broad SRTS goals in mind of safety, ped and bike connections and access as you review goal statements

Comp Plan Example

Strategy: Maintain local streets, alley and sidewalks on a routine and e stablished schedule

Action Steps:

....develop a five year Capital Improvement Plan for local streets, alleys, sidewalks and coordinate it with water and sewer system infrastructure improvements.

Partner with School District Safe Routes to School Program and routinely identify and address safety issues for students walking and bicycling to school.



Comp plan Transportation strategy and action steps

Questions?

Questions?: MDH Active Living Team:
Kelly Corbin
Physical Activity Coordinator
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#507-206-2717

Ellen Pillsbury
Active Transportation Coordinator
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#651-201-9354



Resource from Dave:

http://saferoutesinfo.org/sites/default/files/news/SRTS_brief_IntegratingCompPlan-FINAL.pdf

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Minnesota Safe Routes to School Bike to School Day Resources



BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY PROMOTION

- Sign up at walkbiketoschool.org
- BTSD Kits for those that sign up (as available)
- Communications materials on MNSRTS



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**Bike to School Day is
Coming!**

Wed., May 10th, 2017


[Find out more about Minnesota's Bike to School Day here!](#)

[Register here for Bike to School Day](#) and we'll send you materials to support your event.




Bike to School Day Marketing Toolkit


[Instructions for Bike to School Day Toolkit](#) (word)
[Social Media Image #1](#) (JPG)
[Social Media Image #2](#) (JPG)
[Social Media Image #3](#) (JPG)
[Social Media Image #4](#) (JPG)
[Parent Flyers](#) (PPT)
[School Posters/Flyers](#) (PPT)
[Bike to School Day Sample Text for News, Announcements, social media, etc.,](#) (word)
[Bike to School Day Stickers](#) (PDF)
[Bike Zone Poster/Flyer](#) (PPT)



Ditch the Drive and Join the Ride!
Bike to School Day is May 10th!

Skip the Bus, Grab Your Bike!
Bike to School Day is May 10th!





MINNESOTA
**SAFE
ROUTES
TO SCHOOL**

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnsaferoutes/contact/brand_downloads.html#btsd

2017 POSTER CONTEST

- Poster contest sponsored by MnDOT, QBP and Dero
- "How does riding to school make you feel?"
- Prizes
- Lesson Plans



- Find out more at mnsaferoutes.org

REPORT BACK!

- Always interested in more stories and photos of Safe Routes to School encouragement events in action!

Dave.cowan@state.mn.us



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WALK/BIKE TO SCHOOL DATES!

OCTOBER 4TH , 2017

FEBRUARY 7TH, 2018

MAY 9TH, 2018



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State policy update per Dorian Grilley at SRTS Steering Committee meeting

There is a lot occurring. Currently there is a Transportation Bill in the state senate that includes an Active Transportation Program (no funding, but establishing a program which is a vital first step). The House transportation bill does not include a such a program, but does have \$2.5 mil for SRTS infrastructure. Both bills currently include \$500,000 for non infrastructure (same as previous biennium).

In the Senate, the bonding bill has come out of committee with \$6 mil for SRTS Infrastructure. The house has not had a committee meeting yet for their bonding bill

We are entering the final month of session. There will be a lot of movement and we are as well positioned as we can be to secure resources to support SRTS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- [SRTS Academy Application](#)
- 2017 National Walk Summit, St Paul, MN September 13 – 15, 2017
 - [Registration is Open](#)

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SRTS Academy will keep the application open to request local/regional trainings throughout the year. We cannot guarantee we will always have capacity. However, the team thought we would have the ability to accommodate most. Link included above.

BikeMN hosts monthly network webinars that alternate focus areas between bicycle advocacy and bicycle education.

If you want to join either or both of the groups and listen in or participate in the next webinar, send an email to natalie@bikemn.org. You'll be added to one or both listservs and Google Groups, named MN Bicycle Advocates Network and MN Bicycle Educators Network.

Upcoming BikeMN Network topics:

May 17th @ 11:30am – **Educators** "Bicycle and Pedestrian Education for Diverse Audiences"

June 21st @ 11:30am – **Advocates** "Encouragement: Pecha Kucha" *Please submit an application*

<http://www.bikemn.org/blog/327-mn-bicycle-advocates-call-for-pecha-kucha-presentations>

Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota

"Together we're making Minnesota a place where
bicycling is easy, safe and fun for everyone."



www.bikemn.org • info@bikemn.org • [t f /bikemn](https://www.facebook.com/bikemn)

WALK! BIKE! FUN! Training Registration

- Sartell: <http://www.bikemn.org/events/event/445>
- Eagan: <http://www.bikemn.org/events/event/446>
- Grand Rapids: <http://www.bikemn.org/events/event/447>
- Crookston: <http://www.bikemn.org/events/event/448>

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THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

MONTH May 18, 10:00 – 11:00 AM	TOPIC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring the Intersections of MN Walks strategies and SRTS • Strategies to Prevent and Respond to Negative SRTS Stories
MONTH June 15, 10:00 – 11:00 AM	TOPIC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRTS Evaluation Guidelines for MN Programs • Legislative Recap
MONTH July 20, 10:00 – 11:00 AM	TOPIC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

To join the Minnesota Safe Routes to School Network,
 email center.communications@bluecrossmn.com

SHIP is July 26 and 27. Would it work for Network members to have the SRTS Meet up occur with SHIP conference? Please email Jill.chamberlain@bluecrossmn.com with comments.

2017 MEETINGS



2017 Meeting Dates:

~~January 19~~

~~February 16~~ *cancelled due to tech issues*

~~March 23~~

~~April 20~~

~~May 18~~

~~June 15~~

~~July 20~~

~~August 17~~

~~September 21~~

~~October TBD~~

~~November 16~~

~~December 21~~

Call Time: 10:00 – 11:00AM

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Will sort out Oct ASAP.



THANK YOU.

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